

## **BELMONT COUNCIL ON AGING MINUTES**

**Meeting of Monday, 5/7/07**

**PRESENT:** J Semuels, Chair, J. Bruschi, H. Dvorak, E. Hamann, N. Hegarty, J. Horner, J. Kantor, H. Kazarian, A. Lougee, B. Miranda, N. Niv-Vogel, P. Solomon  
**ABSENT:** A. Verrilli

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman J. Semuels at 7:35 pm.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of April 3, 2007 were approved as read.

**SENIOR CITIZEN CONCERNS:** A question was raised as to status of elevator grant application. Ann Verrilli sent word that there was nothing to report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Tom Younger, Town Administrator, will come to senior center on 5/17 from 10-11AM to talk about the budget and answer any questions. Board members are encouraged to attend.

### **REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCES:**

#### **A. Springwell:**

**Belmont meals:** Nava met with Sue Temper re handling our new meal site & meals on wheels when new senior center is built. Springwell responded favorably but no definite commitment at this time.

**Budget:** The State House of Representatives added \$2M to the budget but very little overall to service elders. Basically it is level funded.

**4/18 Meeting with Rep. Will Brownsberger:** Sue Temper & Phyl Solomon met with him and urged him to vote favorably for funding increases for ECOP (Enhanced Community Options Program), Protective Services and Purchased Services.

**B. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** See attached. Since the report was written, Nava reported that Belmont expects to have a level service budget. Nava has been requested to look into cost savings for the transportation services in the coming year. Nava had applied to the state for a grant to help fund purchase of a van but to date has received no reply. She will keep the Board informed.

**C. SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE:** It was reported that major issues with the Planning Board overall, appear to be resolved. Signed building documents from the architect will be given to the Planning Board. It is hoped that bids will go out by the end of May. Construction will take 18 months from groundbreaking.

**D. FRIENDS:** The membership drive will be held until the date for bids to go out is set. Plans are underway for fall fundraising events. At the recent Town Meeting some references were made about the senior center fundraising efforts that involved

misinformation. The Board recommended that the Friends write a letter to the local placeCityBelmont paper clarifying these efforts.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Nava stated that the formula grant is \$31, 000 plus. In past years the salary for the Senior Center Coordinator's position was partially paid for by the formula grant. The split pay between Town and the formula grant caused accounting complications that the recent new system the Town purchased could not ameliorate. With the approval of all parties involved Nava decided to request that a driver's salary (same dollar amount) be substituted in the grant so that the coordinator's position would be paid entirely by the town thus eliminating the cumbersome accounting. Since there will be no intern next year \$1000 more can be requested for the volunteer recognition activities.

B. Nava reported that there was no MACRO social worker intern available from Boston College but the school will inform her if a clinical social worker intern will be available.

C. The scheduling of the yearly Staff Recognition Luncheon, given by the Board, was set for Wednesday, 6/20. Nava will email details to the Board.

D. Town Day is 5/19/07 Volunteers are needed to be at the COA table. Nava will email scheduling of table coverage to the Board.

E. Neil Hegarty reported that the BEC (Belmont Elderly Citizens) Inc. will hold its annual meeting in June. He will receive any new appointees for the BEC Board before that.

F. Hildy Dvorak, COA Board representative to the Human Rights Commission stated there was nothing to report. The Commission would like to hear about any human rights abuses. The Board reported none.

G. Joel Semuels, Chair will attend the Open Meeting Law meeting for heads of Boards on 5/10/07.

H. Chronic Disease Mgmt. Program: Discussion was held as to whether to offer this program again in the Fall of '08. It was decided to wait until Nava received the results of the evaluations from the recent program. The issue will be put on the June Board agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

The next Board meeting will be on Monday, June 4, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

**Phyl Solomon,  
Recording Secretary**